

BUSTER 7d



BUSTER'S DREAM-WORLD

MERRY CHRISTMAS, FOLKS!

SAME TO YOU, POSTIE! HERE'S YOUR CHRISTMAS BOX!

BEING A POSTMAN AT CHRISTMAS TIME IS RIGHT UP MY STREET! I HOPE I GET LOTS OF CHRISTMAS BOXES!

WE'LL CHUCK OUT LAST YEAR'S TOYS TO MAKE ROOM FOR A NEW LOT THIS YEAR!

OW! WHAT'S HAPPENED?

YOU'LL GET THE SACK, MY LAD—IF YOU CARRY ON LIKE THAT!

I'VE ALREADY GOT ONE, MISTER, AND A CHRISTMAS BOX THAT I DIDN'T EXPECT TO GET!

WATCH CLOSELY, LAD! I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO DELIVER THE MAIL!

EEEEAARGH!

COO—HE WAS "PRICKLY" ENOUGH BEFORE HE HANDLED THAT HOLLY! I'M OFF OVER TO THE BACK PAGE TO CONTINUE MY DREAM!

A CHRISTMAS CRACKER MOTTO INSPIRED NEW CONFIDENCE IN NATHAN!

The WIZARD of FOOTBALL

Cyril Clarkson had set his heart on becoming a soccer star and his chances improved when he met ex-actor Nathan Flintlock who began to coach him and give him confidence. Nathan also became coach to Western United, but after a bad game which Western failed to win, Nathan was sacked and Cyril resigned in protest...

DOWNHEARTED, CYRIL WANDERED INTO THE EMPTY, LONELY STADIUM...

"APPY CHRISTMAS, CYRIL! YERE, IT'S TIME YOU WERE GETTING OFF 'OME, ISN'T IT?"

SOME CHRISTMAS THIS IS GOING TO BE! I-MIGHT NEVER PLAY HERE AGAIN! I'D BETTER FIND MR. FLINTLOCK... HE MUST BE FEELING AS MISERABLE AS I AM!

CYRIL HAD NEVER SEEN THE OLD ACTOR SO DISPIRITED!

CHEER UP, MR. FLINTLOCK! AFTER ALL, IT IS CHRISTMAS! HERE... PULL A CRACKER WITH ME!

YES, THE FESTIVE SEASON IS UPON US... IT ONLY MAKES OUR PLIGHT ALL THE MORE POIGNANT! IN THE MIDST OF FUN AND LAUGHTER, WE TWO ARE FACING DISASTER!

THE MOTTO FROM THE CRACKER ACTED LIKE A TONIC TO THE STRANGE EX-ACTOR!

"NEVER GIVE UP... NEVER BE BLUE... TRY... TRY... TRY AGAIN! FOR THE TRIER WILL ALWAYS WIN THROUGH!"

I HAVE THE MOTTO... I WONDER WHAT SENSELESS MESSAGE IS WRITTEN UPON IT?

CYRIL EVENTUALLY DISCOVERED NATHAN FLINTLOCK SITTING GLOOMILY IN A NEARBY CAFE...

HELLO, MR. FLINTLOCK! I HEARD THEY SACKED YOU! IT WASN'T FAIR—AND I TOLD 'EM SO—AND I RESIGNED, TOO!

AH, CYRIL, MY DEAR BOY! YOU ARE A LOYAL AND NOBLE SOUL... BUT I HAVE BROUGHT YOU NOTHING BUT DISASTER! I FEAR BOTH OF US ARE FACING RUIN AND DESPAIR!

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

COR, THERE'S A GOOD OMEN... A TOY FOOTBALL!

WH-WHERE ARE WE GOING?

BACK TO WESTERN UNITED, BOY! WE ARE NOT DEFEATED! WE ARE NOT GIVING UP THE BATTLE BECAUSE THE FIRST SKIRMISH WENT AGAINST US... WE MUST, AND WILL WIN THROUGH!

'TIS THE VOICE OF FATE, CYRIL! A MESSAGE OF HOPE HAS BEEN SENT TO US IN THIS MISERABLE CHRISTMAS CRACKER! TRY... TRY AGAIN! WHAT POETRY... WHAT SUPERB SENTIMENT!

BACK AT THE DESERTED GROUND, CYRIL CHANGED INTO HIS TRACK-SUIT AND WENT OUT ON TO THE PITCH...

YOU MUST FACE FACTS, CYRIL... YOUR SHOOTING IS NOT AS GOOD AS IT COULD BE! SO...WE WILL PRACTISE! WE WILL SHOOT AT GOAL UNTIL WE ACHIEVE SUCCESS!



OKAY, MR. FLINTLOCK!

REMEMBER... TOE DOWN, BOY! KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN OVER THE BALL... HIT IT WITH THE INSTEP! NONE OF THIS WRETCHED TOE-PUNTING...

I-I'LL TRY...



AN HOUR WENT BY... THEN ANOTHER...

COR, THAT ONE FELT GOOD! I THINK I AM GETTING THE IDEA AT LAST, SIR!

SIX SHOTS... SIX GOALS! AND ALL OF THEM GOING IN LIKE THUNDERBOLTS! NOW... WE'LL JUST TRY ANOTHER HALF DOZEN!



UNKNOWN TO CYRIL AND NATHAN, THE WESTERN UNITED DIRECTORS HAD RETURNED TO THE GROUND FOR THE TEAM'S CHRISTMAS PARTY...

YOU'VE GOT TO HAND IT TO THOSE TWO... THE GROUNDSMAN TOLD ME THEY'VE BEEN HERE THREE HOURS, PRACTISING!



AND BOTH OF THEM HAVE BEEN SACKED, TOO!

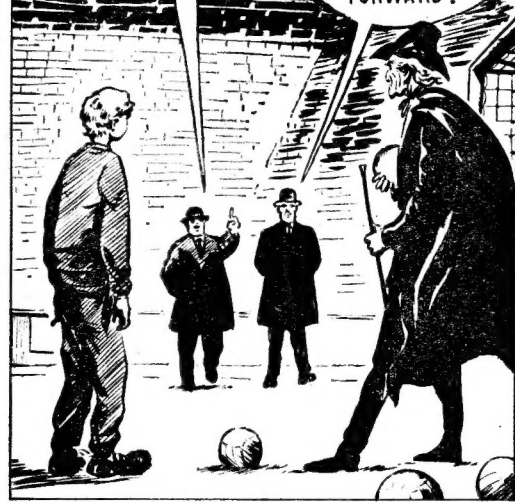
WE MIGHT BE MAKING A MISTAKE SACKING THEM! ANYONE WHO IS PREPARED TO WORK AS HARD AS THEY ARE MUST BE WORTH SOMETHING TO THE CLUB!



YOU'RE RIGHT! FLINTLOCK'S A STRANGE MAN... BUT HE DOES GET THE BEST OUT OF PLAYERS!

LOOK, MR. FLINTLOCK... WE'RE PREPARED TO GIVE YOU ANOTHER CHANCE! WE THINK WE HAVE BEEN A LITTLE HASTY!

WE WANT YOU TO COACH THE TEAM FOR THE BOXING DAY GAME... AND CYRIL WILL PLAY AT CENTRE FORWARD!



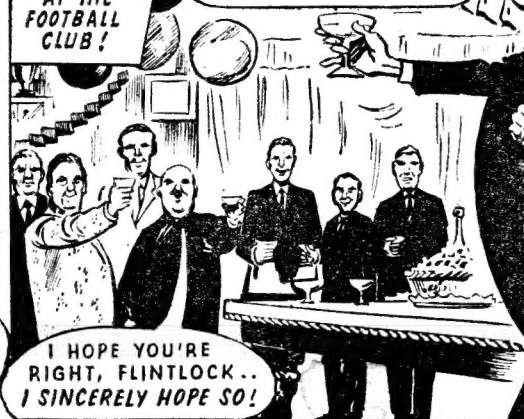
AND WE'D LIKE YOU BOTH TO COME TO THE TEAM'S CHRISTMAS PARTY!



IT OCCURS TO ME, TO TELL YOU BOTH TO GO AND "JUMP IN THE LAKE"! BUT YOU HAVE SHOWN GREAT SENSE IN REINSTATING US, AND AS IT IS CHRISTMAS CYRIL AND I WILL AGREE TO YOUR PROPOSITION!

AND SO, FOR THE TIME BEING AT LEAST, HARMONY REIGNED AT THE FOOTBALL CLUB!

GENTLEMEN, I, NATHAN FLINTLOCK, WISH YOU ALL THE BEST FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON... AND I GIVE YOU MY BOND... WESTERN WILL SWEEP TO VICTORY ON BOXING DAY!



I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT, FLINTLOCK... I SINCERELY HOPE SO!

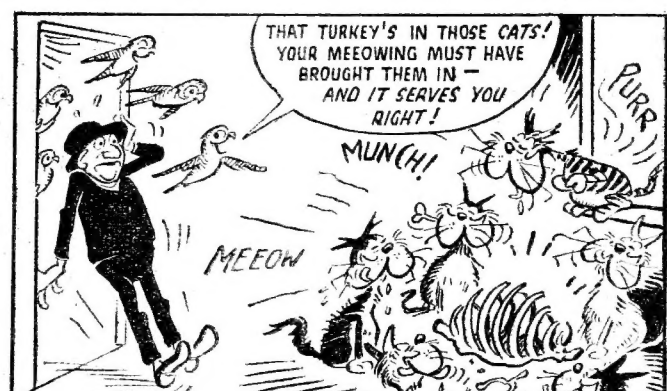
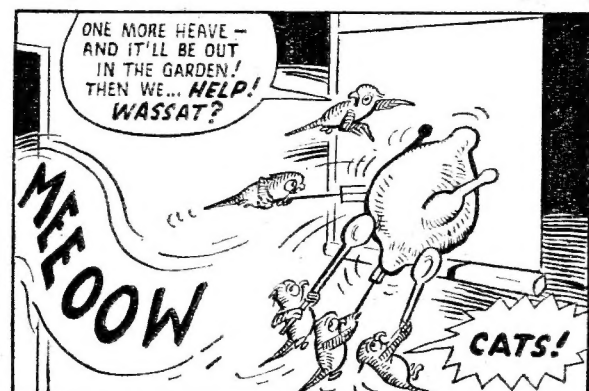
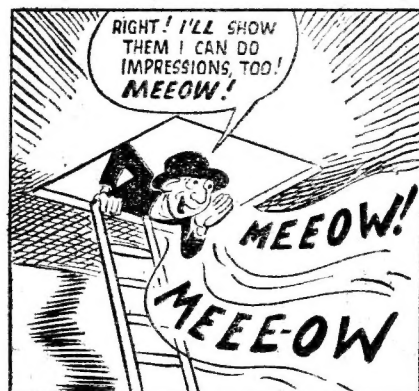
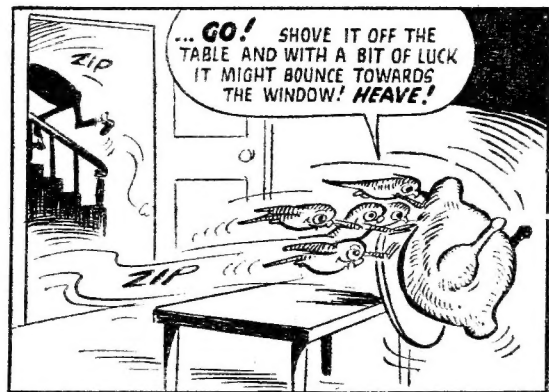
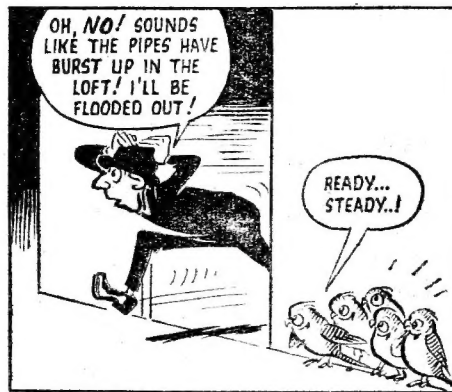
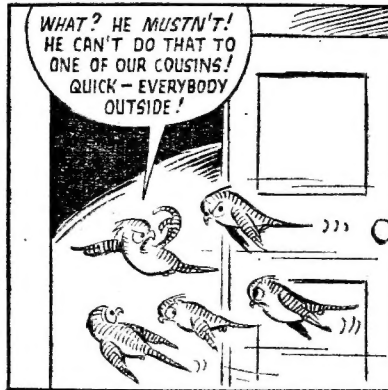
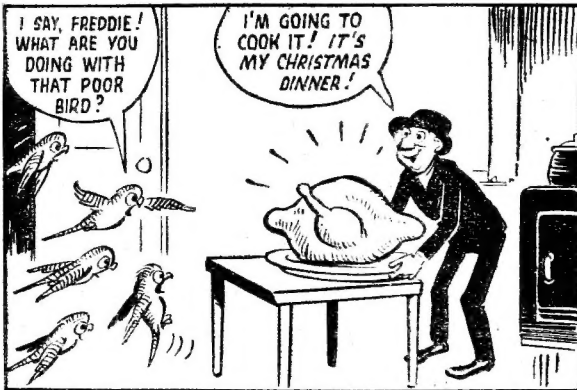
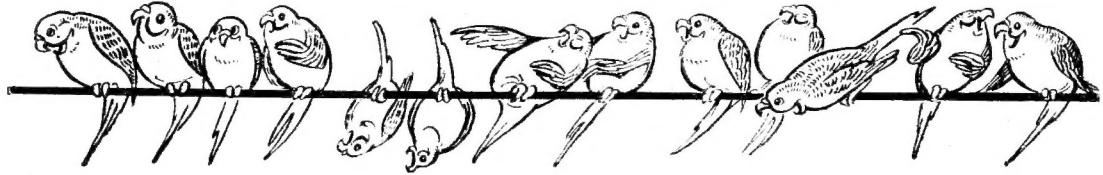
THREE CHEERS FOR MR. FLINTLOCK! HURRAAAH!



FREDDIE TRIES TO FOOL THE BUDGIES, BUT IT LOOKS AS IF HE'S COOKED HIS OWN GOOSE!



FREDDIE "Parrot-face" DAVIES



JOIN FREDDIE AND HIS FEATHERED FRIENDS AGAIN IN OUR SUPER NEW YEAR ISSUE!

SEND IN YOUR JOKE TODAY—A CASH PRIZE MAY COME YOUR WAY!

BUSTER Giggles

POCKET-MONEY PRIZES TO BE WON EVERY WEEK!

£1

FOR THE SENDER OF EACH JOKE PUBLISHED

HOW TO ENTER:

Send your joke on a postcard to:

**"BUSTER Giggles",
FLEETWAY HOUSE,
FARRINGTON ST.,
LONDON, E.C.4.**

(When similar jokes are received, the first one to be judged will be awarded the prize.)

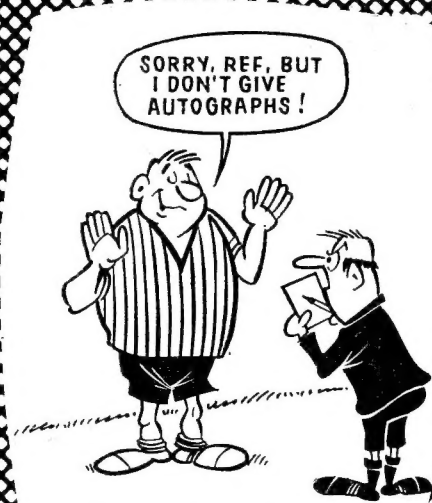
MY THREE FAVOURITE FEATURES ARE:

- 1
- 2
- 3

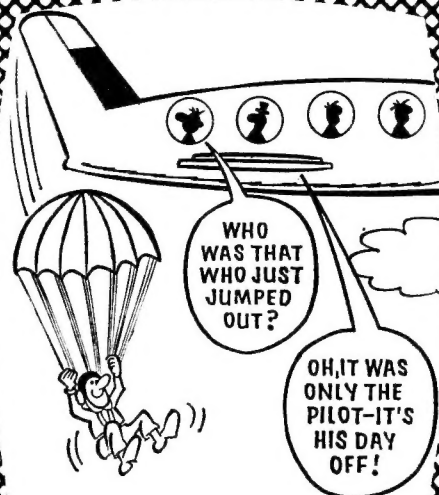
PLEASE FILL IN THE COUPON ABOVE AND PASTE IT TO YOUR POSTCARD.



From D. WRIGHT, MIDDLESBROUGH.



From D. WEBB, BARNET.



From M. HIGMAN, BUCKFASTLEIGH.



From D. LOVELL, MURTON.



From D. HALL, WINCHESTER.



From L. PEACOCK, Wst. DRAYTON.

IT'S CHRISTMAS DAY—BUT CRIME STILL REARS ITS UGLY HEAD!

CRABBE'S CRUSADERS



Before they were shipwrecked and washed ashore on Crabbe Island, orphan boys "Smiler" Smith, "Red" O'Rork, Willy Evans and Sammy Greig had known few of the delights of the festive season. But now, as Professor Crabbe's crusaders, Christmas time was very different...

THE CRUSADERS WERE CELEBRATING THE BIG DAY IN TYPICAL ATHLETIC STYLE!

WHO WANTS SNOW WHEN THERE'S ALL THIS LOVELY WARM SEA AROUND?

THE TOP O' CHRISTMAS MORNIN' TO EVERYONE!

YIPPEE!

GURGLE! GLUB!

AND LATER, BENEATH THE BLAZING, TROPICAL SUNSHINE...

TIME FOR DINNER AT LAST! I'M STARVING!

WHO'D EVER THOUGHT WE'D BE HAVING OUR CHRISTMAS SRUB ON A BEACH?

OLD CRABBE'S DONE US PROUD!

COR! WHERE'D YOU LEARN TO COOK, PROF? THIS TURKEY'S GREAT!

GOOD! THE CULINARY ARTS ACT AS A CHALLENGE TO MY SKILLS AS AN INVENTOR!

IT'S MELTIN' IN ME MOUTH BEGORRAH!

THEN PROFESSOR CRABBE APPEARED...

THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON, BOYS! PEACE AND GOODWILL TO YOU ALL!

STONE ME—FATHER CHRISTMAS 'IMSELF!

AT LONG LAST, THE MASSIVE FEAST CAME TO AN END...

PHWE! I'M BLOWN OUT!

I WON'T BE ABLE TO EAT AGAIN FOR DAYS!

TIME FOR PRESENTS, BOYS!

AFTER PERSONAL GIFTS HAD BEEN EXCHANGED, THE OLD SCIENTIST PRODUCED FOUR IDENTICAL, GAILY-WRAPPED PACKAGES...

JUST A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA WHICH I'VE BEEN WORKING ON! I CAN PROMISE YOU A SURPRISE WHEN YOU USE THEM IN YOUR WORK!

BUT BEFORE THE CRUSADERS COULD UNWRAP THEIR MYSTERIOUS GIFTS...

BRRIINNNING!

THE AUTOMATIC ANTI-CRIME ALARM BELL!

TO THE UNDERGROUND CONTROL ROOM, MY CRUSADERS. MAKE HASTE!

EVEN AS THEY WATCHED...

GOOD GRIEF! I MUST BE DREAMIN'! IT'S FATHER CHRISTMAS!

"CHEERFUL" CARSON! I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED!

AN ARRAY OF TELEVISION SCREENS WERE AGLOW...

IT'S ENGLAND, OF ALL PLACES!

AND IT'S BEEN SNOWING!

BUT NOTHING'S HAPPENING! WHERE'S THE CRIME...?

THE ROTUND, TRADITIONALLY-DRESSED FIGURE DISAPPEARED DOWN A CHIMNEY, AND FIVE MINUTES LATER...

WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT? HE'S ROBBED A BANK!

TALK ABOUT 'ELPING YERSELF TO A CHRISTMAS PRESENT!

THE BATTERY OF PICTURES DULLED AND FADED AWAY...

THAT, MY YOUNG FRIENDS WAS THE CLEVER, CUNNING AND CRAFTY "CHEERFUL" CARSON, WHO HAS A MANIA FOR CHRISTMAS CROOKERY! EVERY YEAR AT THIS TIME HE INDULGES IN HIS 'TAKING' WAYS! BUT IT HAS LASTED LONG ENOUGH...

... HE MUST BE APPREHENDED!

... AND THAT WAS HOW CRABBE'S CRUSADERS WENT ON THEIR FIRST CHRISTMAS MISSION!

CRABBE CALLING! YOUR QUARRY IS ACTIVE AGAIN! TURN TWENTY DEGREES TO STARBOARD! TWO MINUTES TO TARGET AREA!

INSIDE THE GLEAMING JET-CRAFT...

LOOK AT OUR MYSTERIOUS PRESENTS... THEY'RE PISTOLS OF SOME KIND!

AND CRABBE SAID WE'D GET A SURPRISE! WELL WE CAN SAVE IT FOR CHEERFUL CARSON!

WE'LL GIVE 'IM GOODWILL, ALL RIGHT!

THEN THE CRUSADERS SAW A WEIRD CRAFT HURLING DOWN AT THEM!

NEXT MOMENT, A SUDDEN SHATTERING ROAR ROCKED THE PLANE!

LEAPIN' LEPRECHAUNS! WHAT WAS THAT?

IT WAS A ROCKET, I THINK...

BLAAM!

BUT WHERE...?

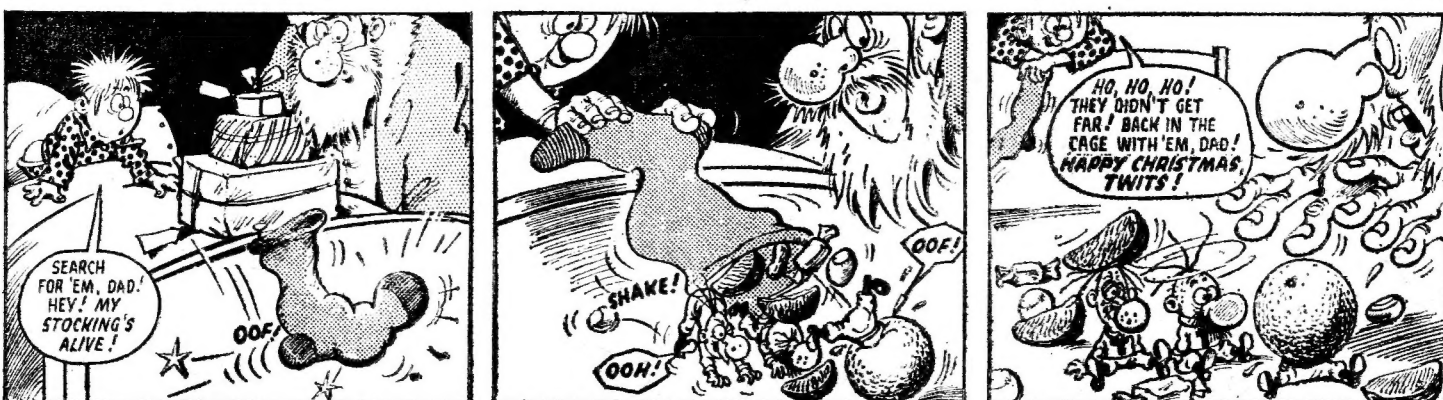
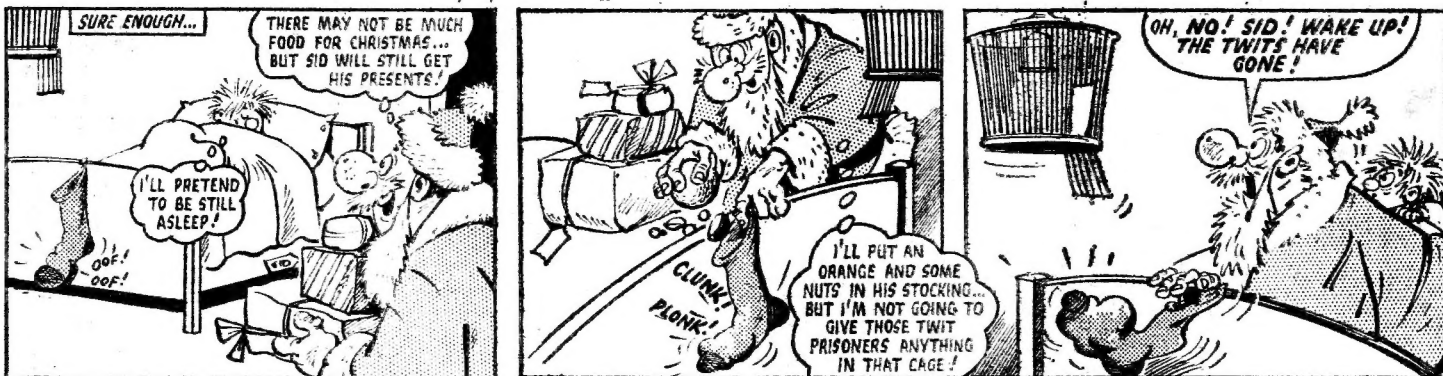
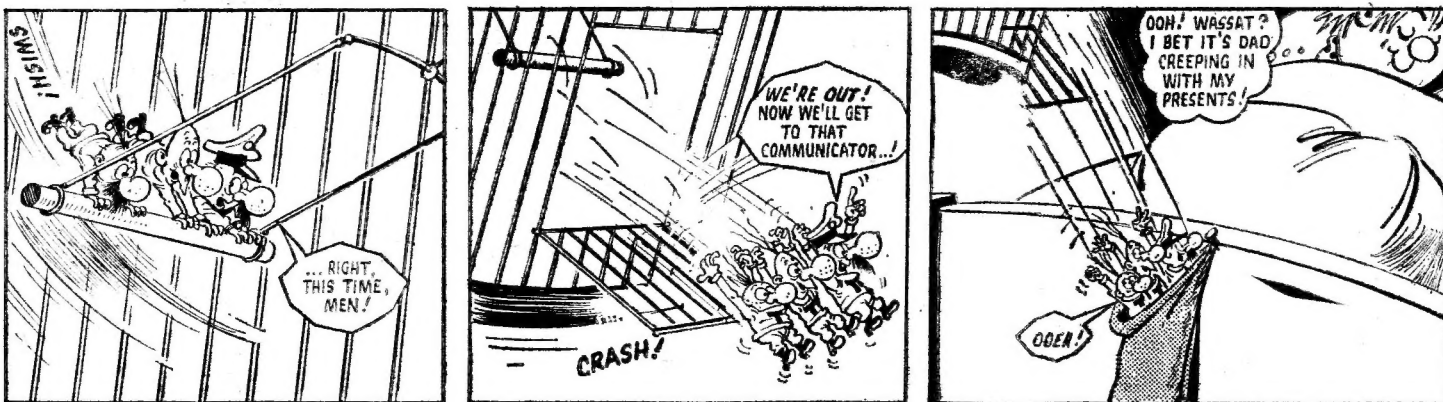
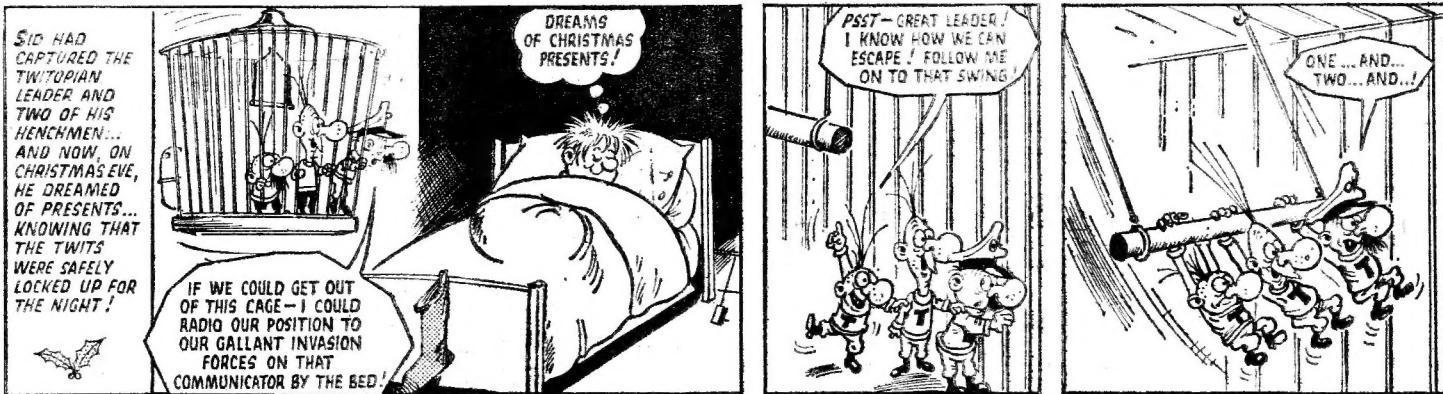
IT... IT'S CHEERFUL CARSON... IN A BLOOMIN' HELI-SLEIGH!

AND IT'S LOADED WITH ROCKETS!

WHAT A CHRISTMAS DAY! WE'VE HAD IT!

HOW CAN THE LADS DEFEAT "CHEERFUL" CARSON? DON'T MISS OUR NEXT THRILLING ISSUE!

THE TWITS HAVE A PEACH OF AN ESCAPE PLAN, BUT THE RESULTS ARE TOO FRUITFUL FOR THEIR LIKING!



MEET SID AND THE TWITS AGAIN IN THE NEXT "BUSTER" ON SALE MONDAY, 29th DECEMBER!

BUSTER'S *Birthday* CLUB



HOORAY for Christmas! rounded up a whole pageful of Yuletide fun, with lots of prizes to be won—so sit back and enjoy it, mates!

Wherever you are, my wish is that you all have a really smashing Christmas!

Your old pal,

Buster

More Awards in the BIRTH DATE GAME

I'm playing Father Christmas this week, mates, handing out prizes to members who can see their birth dates on my Christmas stocking!

If you sent in to join the Club by **Monday, 15th December**, and your birthdate is shown—exact day, month and year—take your pick from this list: **Fountain Pen, Pocket Knife, Writing Folder, Oil-painting-by-numbers Set, Model Aeroplane Kit.**

Choose one you'd like, write it on postcard with your full name, address and date of birth.

Print "DATES" in the front top-left corner and post the card to reach the Club by **Friday, 2nd January**. Overseas members have until 21st May, and all who reply correctly will receive a prize.

P.S. Previous date-spotters must not send in a second time!

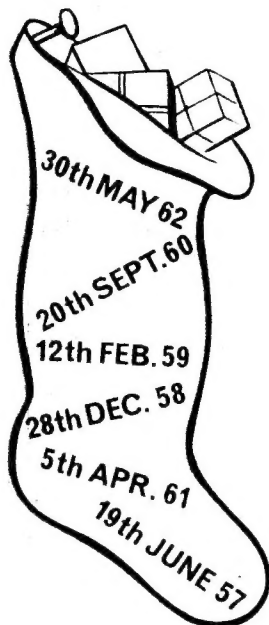


PHOTO PARADE

WOULD you like to appear on Club page, like these two members? Just send a recent, clear, head and shoulders photograph of yourself, with name, address and birth date on the back. Don't forget to enclose a stamped, addressed envelope for the picture to be returned. A prize for every photo printed!

Pauline Taylor, shown on the right, is 12, and hails from Nuneaton. She's a keen reader of BUSTER each week. Welcome to the Club, Pauline!



Peter Rodgers (left) comes from Sheffield. His favourite pastimes are swimming, gymnastics, reading BUSTER and studying animal life.



Join here
FREE

POST this joining form now — and you can enter our "members only" competition for a Lucky Dip prize!

Membership of our Club is free but if you want our shining blue and 'gold' badge to wear, please enclose a 1/6d. postal order with your form (overseas readers must send International Reply Coupons—NOT postal orders!) and also complete the return label underneath the joining form.

If you don't want a badge, send the top form only!

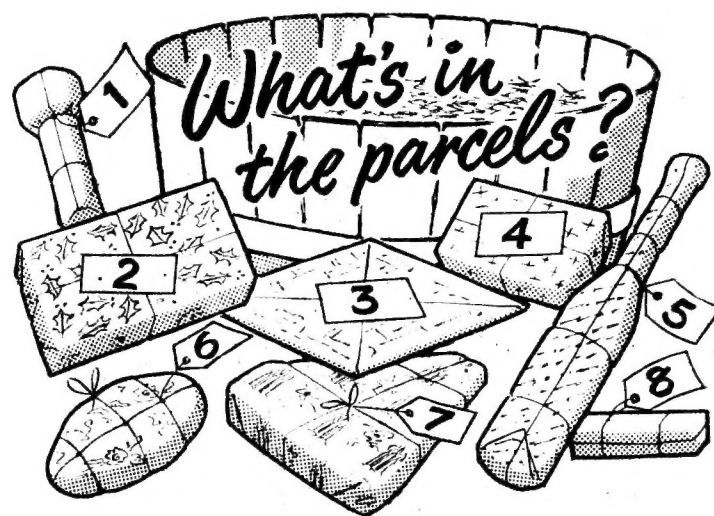
HI! LUCKY DIP PRIZES!

THIS week, we're having a grand Lucky Dip competition! **FIFTY** winners will each be sent **TWO** prizes from our bran tub, which we've filled with an assortment of magnificent gifts. What are they? We're not saying; you won't know what you've won until the postman arrives—so join in the fun and excitement, mates!

To try for a Lucky Dip prize, all you have to do is decide what is in each of the eight numbered parcels below. To help you, here is a combined list of the answers—and the shapes will give you a further clue: **Mouth Organ, Model Aeroplane, Conjuring Set, Electric Torch, Cricket Bat, Rugby Ball, Book, LP Record.**

Make a list of the presents, in numbered order, on a postcard, add your full name, address and birth date then get the entry signed by an adult as your own unaided work. Mark the card "LUCKY DIP" and post to reach the Club before **Tuesday, 6th January**.

The prizes will be awarded in order of merit for the neatest correct entries and the Club Editor's decision is final.



FREE JOINING FORM

Dear Buster—I am becoming a regular reader of BUSTER. Please make me a member of your Birthday Club. I have not sent in a joining form for the Buster Club before.

MY FULL

Names are

MY FULL

Address is

.....

.....

I was born on:

DAY OF MONTH
(in figures)

MONTH

YEAR



The Club Badge costs 1/6 plus postage.

If you want a Club badge, also **PRINT** your name and address clearly with a ball pen on the return label below stick 4d. stamp where shown and enclose with a 1/6 postal order.

Name

Address

.....

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Stick 4d. stamp firmly here for return postage

If undelivered please return to:
BUSTER'S Birthday Club, 1-2 Bear Alley, Farringdon Street, London E.C.4 (Comp.)

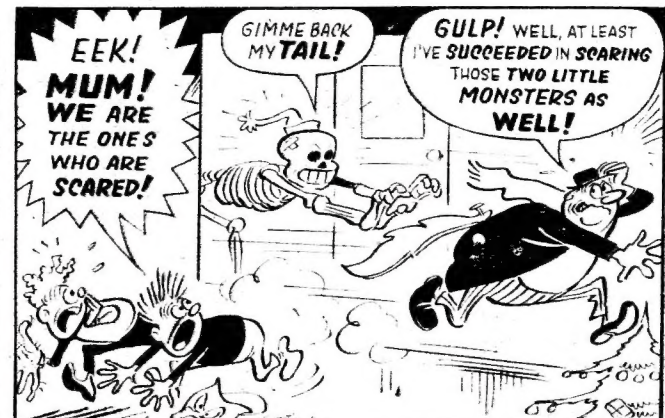
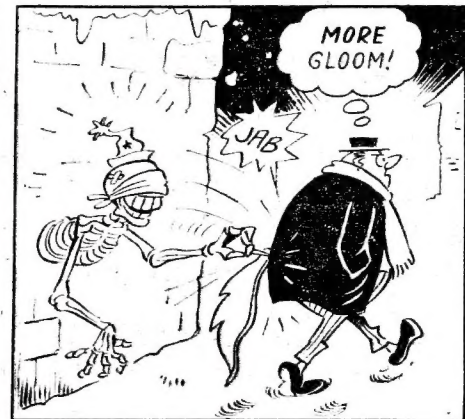
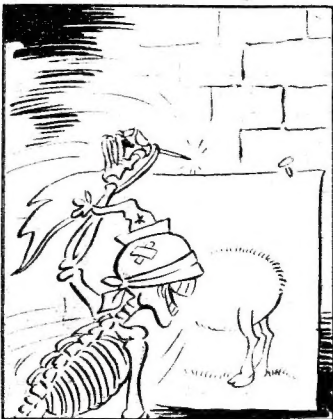
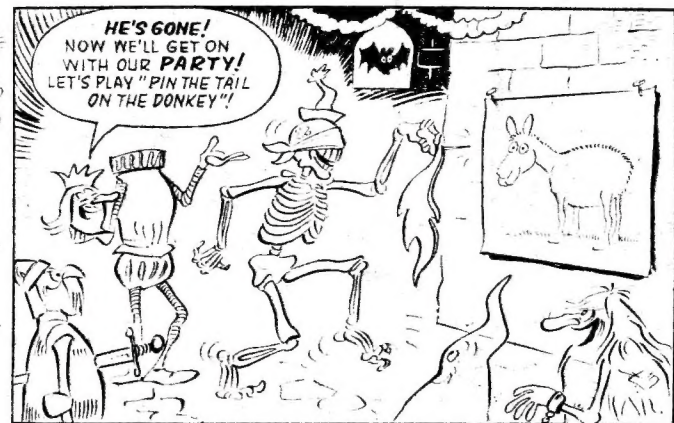
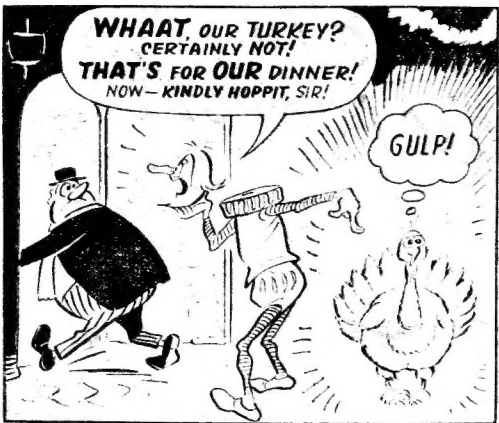


MY ADDRESS: Buster's Birthday Club, 1-2 Bear Alley, Farringdon Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.)



WHEN SOMEONE INTERRUPTS A SPOOKS' CHRISTMAS PARTY, HE'S ONLY INVITING TROUBLE!

RENT-A-GHOST Ltd.



MORE HAIR-RAISING HUMOUR WITH "RENT-A-GHOST," ON MONDAY, 29th DECEMBER!

WITH ARMED SOLDIERS BARRING THEIR WAY, THE PALS BANKED EVERYTHING ON A DESPERATE GAMBLE!

GALAXUS

THE THING FROM OUTER SPACE

A space-creature known as Galaxus had been marooned on Earth, and was being hunted throughout the world. Now, after many adventures, he and his only two friends—two English boys named Jim and Danny Jones—were standing on the borders of Pakistan, looking eastwards...



WELL, GALAXUS, WE'VE COME A LONG WAY FROM IRAN! DOWN THERE IS THE STATE OF RAJASTHAN...

MUUUUUUU!

THAT'S RIGHT, OLD PAL... JUST ONE PART OF A VAST COUNTRY CALLED INDIA!

SETTLING THE BOYS ON HIS SHOULDER, GALAXUS BEGAN TO CLIMB DOWN TOWARDS THE PLAIN...

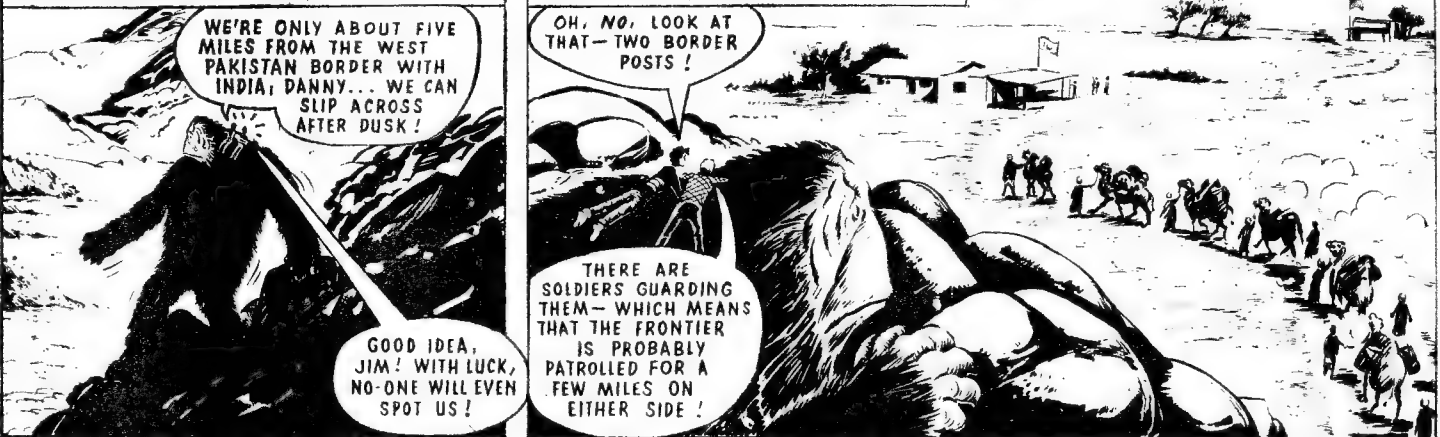
WE'RE ONLY ABOUT FIVE MILES FROM THE WEST PAKISTAN BORDER WITH INDIA, DANNY... WE CAN SLIP ACROSS AFTER DUSK!

GOOD IDEA, JIM! WITH LUCK, NO-ONE WILL EVEN SPOT US!

A FEW HOURS LATER, THE COMPANIONS CAME ACROSS AN UNWELCOME SIGHT...

OH, NO, LOOK AT THAT—TWO BORDER POSTS!

THERE ARE SOLDIERS GUARDING THEM—WHICH MEANS THAT THE FRONTIER IS PROBABLY PATROLLED FOR A FEW MILES ON EITHER SIDE!



QUICKLY, JIM SCANNED A LARGE CAMEL TRAIN WHICH HAD WOUND ITS WAY UP THE DUSTY ROAD...

THOSE MERCHANTS MUST BE CROSSING INTO INDIA, DANNY! WE'LL TELL GALAXUS TO SHRINK, THEN MINGLE WITH THE CROWD!

OKAY, IT'S WORTH A TRY! PERHAPS NOBODY'LL SPOT US!



MINUTES LATER, WITH THE GENTLE SPACE-CREATURE REDUCED TO HIS TINY SIZE, THE BOYS SNEAKED INTO THE TRAVELLERS' CAMP...

HURRY, DANNY... PUT THESE CLOTHES ON! THEY'LL MAKE A PRETTY GOOD TEMPORARY DISGUISE!

ROBES AND TURBANS, EH? JUST THE JOB!



CONTINUED OVERLEAF

ITS CURIOSITY AROUSED, A CAMEL SEIZED GALAXUS IN ITS TEETH—AND DISASTER FOLLOWED!

SOON, WITH THE FRONTIER FORMALITIES COMPLETED, THE CAMEL TRAIN BEGAN TO MOVE FORWARD...



BUT TINY GALAXUS, FEELING STIFLED IN JIM'S TOP POCKET, SUDDENLY POKED HIS HEAD OUT TO GET SOME FRESH AIR...



MUNCHING STEADILY, THE CAMEL LEANED FORWARD TO GET A CLOSER LOOK AT THE STRANGE BLACK CREATURE... AND SCARED STIFF, GALAXUS LASHED OUT WITH A TINY FIST!



STARTLED, THE CAMEL SNAPPED ANGRILY, AND HOLDING POOR GALAXUS BY THE FUR, WHIPPED HIM HIGH INTO THE AIR...



BUT IT WAS TOO LATE! TERRIBLY FRIGHTENED, THE SPACE-CREATURE REACTED INSTINCTIVELY... AND GREW TO GIANT SIZE!

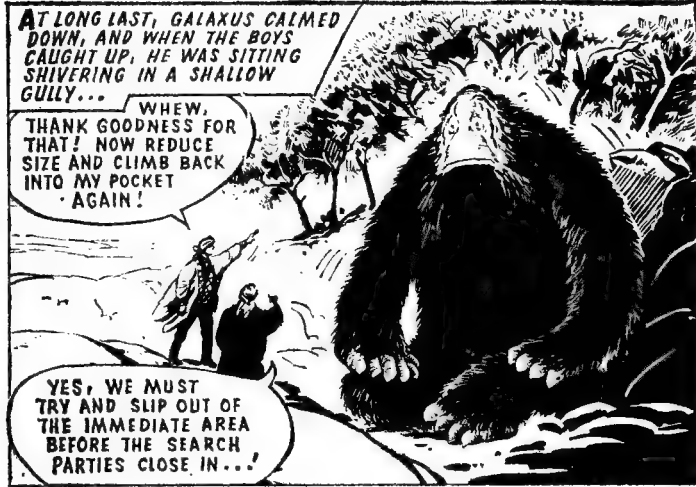


NEXT MOMENT, HE WAS CRASHING WILDLY THROUGH THE INDIAN BORDER POST...



AS JIM AND DANNY SPURTED FRANTICALLY AFTER THEIR FRIEND, THE SOLDIERS LEAPT INTO ACTION...

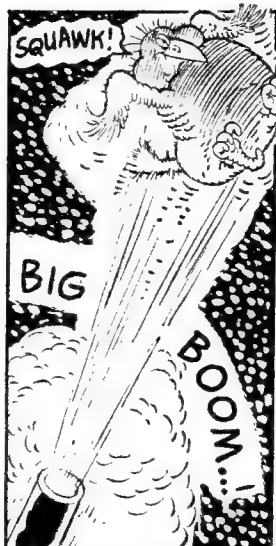
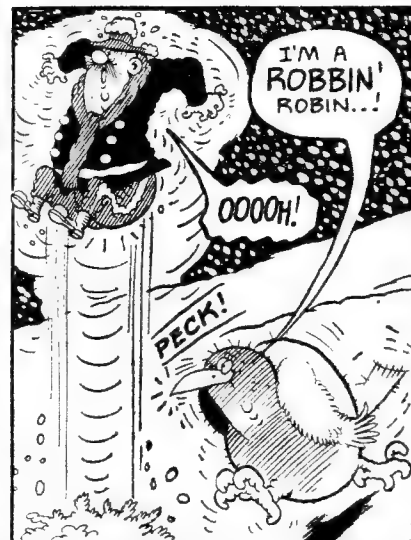




WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO GALAXUS NOW? FIND OUT ON MONDAY, 29th DECEMBER!

FEATHERS ARE SURE TO FLY WHEN POW WOW DISGUISES HIMSELF AS A CHRISTMAS ROBIN!

BIG CHIEF POW WOW



MEET OUR CHEERFUL CHIEF AGAIN IN THE BUMPER NEW YEAR ISSUE OF "BUSTER"!

WHEN DAD PUTS UP THE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS, THE KIDS WHIP UP QUITE A STORM!

The HAPPY FAMILY



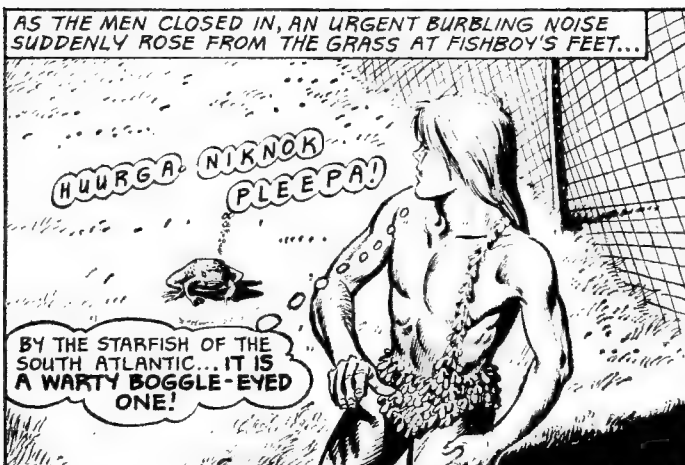
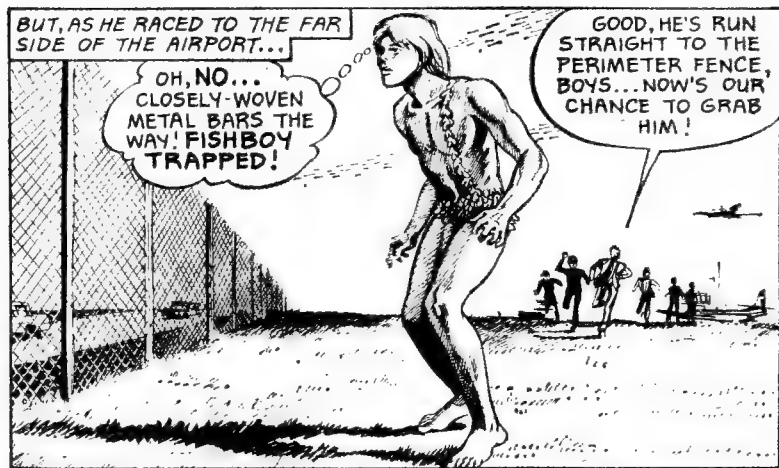
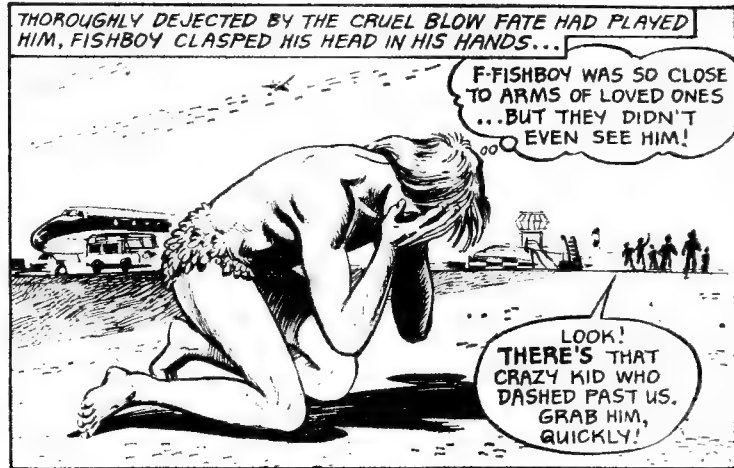
LAUGH AT LIFE WITH THE HAPPY FAMILY AGAIN ON MONDAY, 29th DECEMBER!

WITH ANGRY OFFICIALS CLOSE ON HIS HEELS, FISHBOY FOUND AN UNUSUAL ALLY!

FISHBOY

Denizen of the Deep

Stranded on a desert island as a child and forced to get his food from the sea, Fishboy developed slightly webbed hands and feet and learned to breathe underwater as easily as a fish. After discovering that his parents were two geologists working in Vancouver, Canada, Fishboy set off to find them. Reaching the city, he tracked them down at the airport, where a terrible shock awaited him...



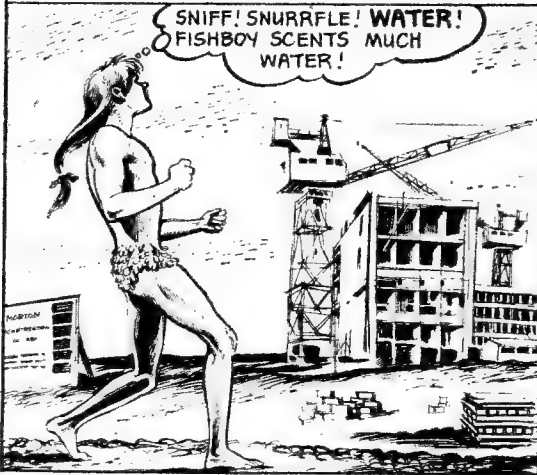
INSTALLED AS A TEMPORARY DRAINAGE SYSTEM, THE PIPE RAN DIRECTLY UNDER THE FENCE. AND, NEXT MOMENT...



SECONDS LATER, FISHBOY WAS SHOOTING OUT OF THE PIPE WHERE IT EMERGED ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE ROAD...



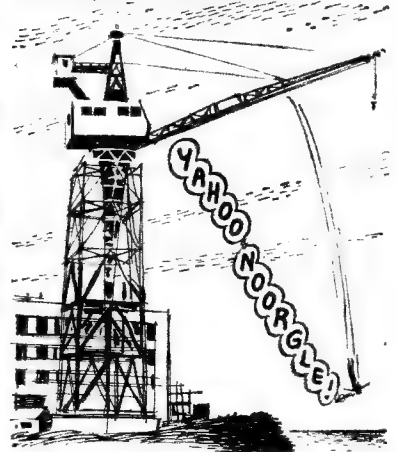
KEEPING WELL CLEAR OF THE HEAVILY-POPULATED AREAS, HE RACED TOWARDS THE OUTSKIRTS OF VANCOUVER. THEN, SUDDENLY...



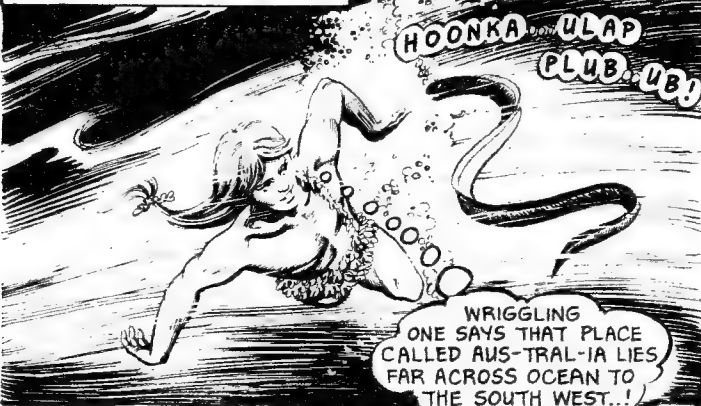
EXCITEDLY, HE SWARMED UP A MASSIVE JUMBO CRANE WHICH STOOD ON A BUILDING SITE...



GASPING WITH DELIGHT, FISHBOY RAN TO THE END OF THE JIB! THEN, DIVING CLEAR, HE PLUNGED GRACEFULLY DOWNWARDS...



CLEAVING THROUGH THE WATER, HE SPOKE QUICKLY TO A PASSING CONGER EEL, AND...



BACK ON DRY LAND, THE ADULTS AND CHILDREN OF VANCOUVER WERE TAKING PART IN A GAY, NOISY CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL...

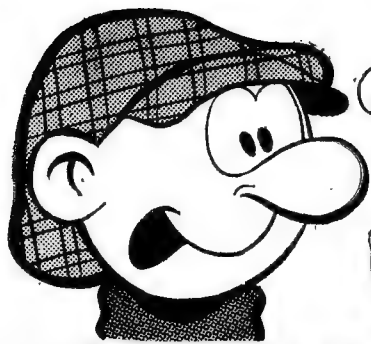


BUT FISHBOY, AS USUAL, WAS ALL BY HIMSELF - A YOUNGSTER WHO KNEW NOTHING OF SEASONAL GIFTS OR SANTA CLAUS...



FOR UNTIL HE FOUND HIS PARENTS, THE ONLY HOME HE COULD HAVE WAS THE ENDLESS OCEAN... AND THE ONLY FRIENDS WHO COULD BRING HIM JOY WERE THE CREATURES OF THE DEEP!

FISHBOY FACES NEW PERILS IN THE NEXT "BUSTER" - ON SALE MONDAY, 29th DECEMBER!



BUSTER'S CHRISTMAS QUIZ



HERE ARE YOUR "CHRISTMAS QUIZ" ANSWERS, PALS!
(Upside down, of course!)

1. Traditionally, 12 days—but it used to be 40... wish it was now! 2. Six times since 1900—in 1906, 1917, 1923, 1938 and 1956: 3. Captain Hook, of course! From J. M. Barrie's "Peter Pan"; 4. Ebenezer Scrooge—but he became a reformed character when he was haunted by three ghosts in Charles Dickens's "A Christmas Carol"; 5. Don't know about you, chums, but I can go on eating them till next Christmas! 6. Yes, it's true! In northern England from 23rd December, 1962, to 25th January, 1963!

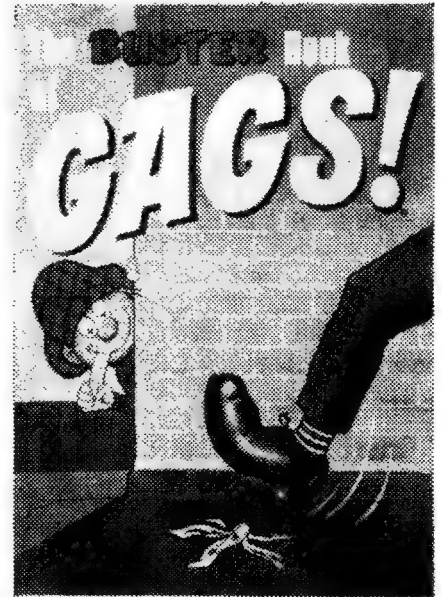


A guaranteed feast of fun for every boy and girl

It's the BUSTER BOOK OF GAGS

It will make you split your sides laughing with a galaxy of gags, cartoons, riddles, limericks, tongue-twisters and comic stories. This fun-filled treat will provide you with a sparkling stream of patter to delight your friends. 128 laugh-packed pages.

**MAKE SURE OF YOUR
COPY NOW! 5/-**



DOCTOR BIRD- BRAIN



THE BRAINY BIRD
WHO ALWAYS
FORGETS TO
REMEMBER.



EVERYONE'S WILD ABOUT The WILD WONDERS!



Because of the arduous life they had led on bleak Worrag Island, Rick and Charlie Wild had developed into super athletes! Join them every week in ...

VALIANT 7d

FREE 20 diff. GREAT BRITAIN LARGE COMMEMORATIVES (Subject to slight variation)

Send a 4d. stamp for postage and ask to see our famous PICTORIAL DISCOUNT APPROVALS.

Approvals are not sent outside the British Isles but this offer can be had for 3/- to those not wanting our approvals.

(Please tell your parents you are applying)

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We've reserved 100 for you—all different, including Russians and Space Stamps, sent FREE when you request our Discount Approvals, with lots of Bargains and other Free Gift offers. Send two 3d. stamps for return postage and packing.

Please tell your parents you are writing.

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THE BOYS' EXPLOSIVE PLAN MAKES T-T's CHRISTMAS PARTY GO WITH A BANG!

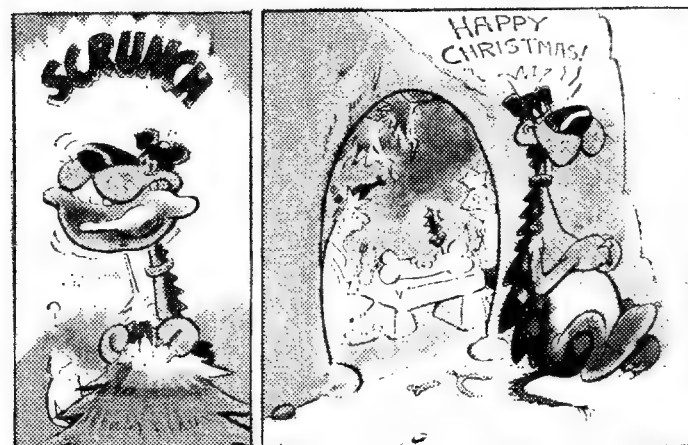
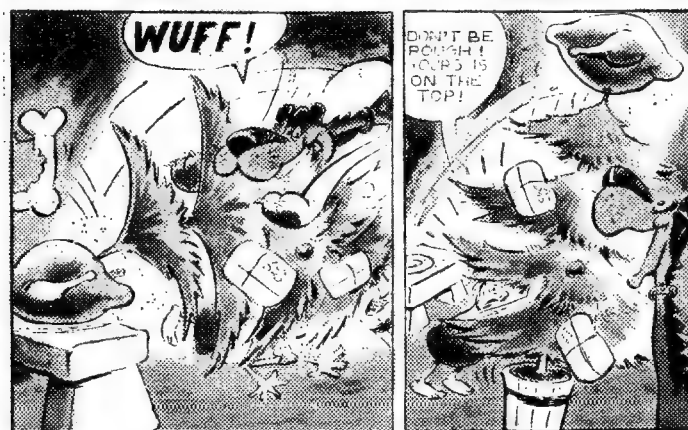
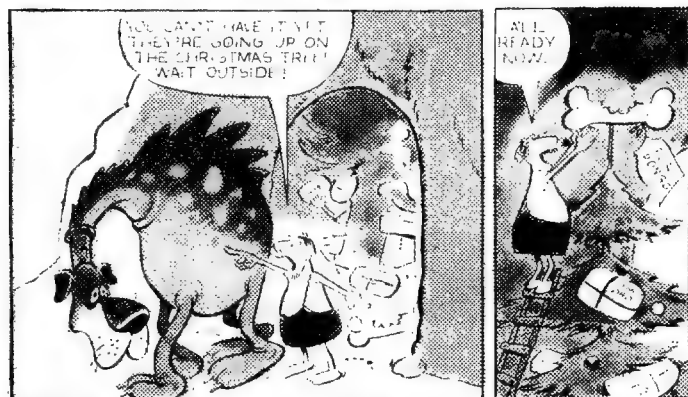
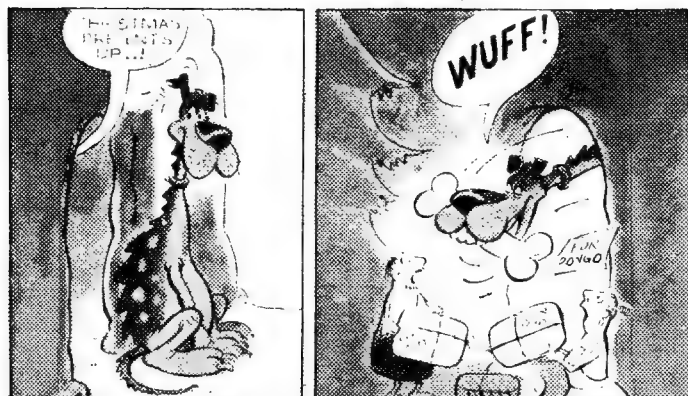
T-T TEACHER



OUR MERRY METAL MASTER OF MIRTH APPEARS IN OUR BUMPER NEW YEAR ISSUE!

PONGO

THE PREHISTORIC POOCH



DECIMAL
CURRENCY
BOARD

Are
there any
halfcrowns
in your
money-box?



If there are, ask Mum or Dad to change them for coins of equal value. Because after 31st December, halfcrowns can't be used as money. They're being withdrawn in preparation for our change to decimal money on D Day – 15th February, 1971.

So take a look, and see if you have any halfcrowns. If you do, ask Mum or Dad to change them for you now.

**After 31st December,
you can't spend your
halfcrowns—anywhere.**

REGARDLESS OF DANGER, SIMON PLUNGED INTO THE FLOOD TO LOOK FOR HIS PAL



Racing driver Simon Starr and his inventor pal, "Brainbox" Cox were in South America. They took part in a race which was called off because of torrential rains—then the town became flooded and Brainbox was lost somewhere at the pits...

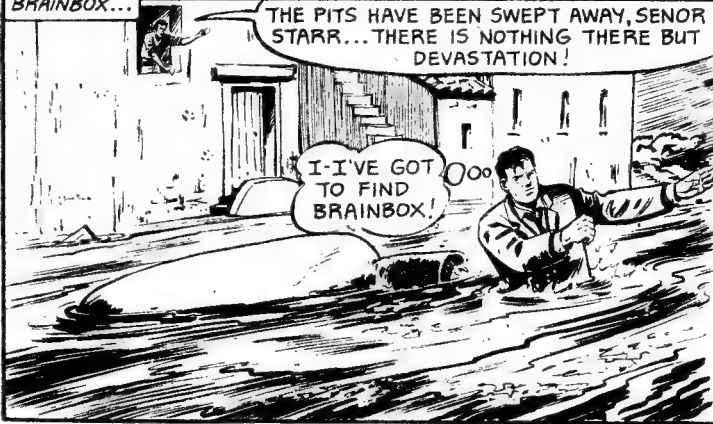
The SKID KIDS



FEARING FOR HIS PAL'S SAFETY, SIMON WENT TO LOOK FOR BRAINBOX...

THE PITS HAVE BEEN SWEEPED AWAY, SENOR STARR... THERE IS NOTHING THERE BUT DEVASTATION!

I-I'VE GOT TO FIND BRAINBOX!



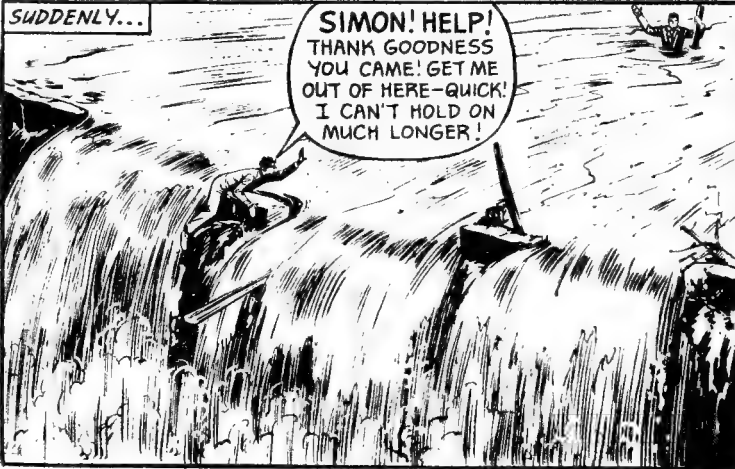
THE YOUNG RACE ACE WAS SOON TO DISCOVER THIS FOR HIMSELF...

HECK! WHAT A MESS! BRAINBOX WILL NEVER HAVE SURVIVED THAT!



SUDDENLY...

SIMON! HELP! THANK GOODNESS YOU CAME! GET ME OUT OF HERE—QUICK! I CAN'T HOLD ON MUCH LONGER!



DON'T WORRY, OLD PAL... I'LL SOON HAVE YOU BACK TO SAFETY!



GRAB HOLD OF THE BOX, BRAINBOX...



THE PLUCKY LITTLE INVENTOR RELEASED HIS HOLD ON THE WALL...

O-O-KAY, SIMON... HAUL AWAY!



GOSH! IF THIS ROPE BREAKS... HE'S HAD IT!

BUT, AT LAST...

PHEW! WELCOME BACK, OLD PAL! BUT WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR CAR?



IT—IT WENT OVER THE EDGE! THAT'S HOW I GOT STUCK OUT THERE... I-I WAS TRYING TO SAVE IT!

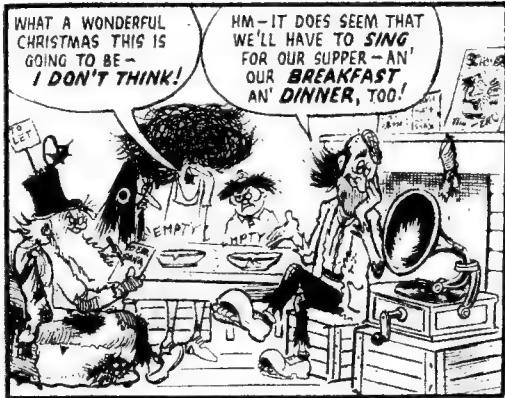


MORE THRILLS WITH THE SKID KIDS IN OUR NEW YEAR ISSUE, ON SALE MONDAY, 29th DECEMBER!

THERE'S A NOTE OF DISCORD WHEN THE MISERS GO CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING!

THE MISERS

The Meanest Mob in Town!



THE PENNY-PINCHING MISERS RETURN IN THE NEXT "BUSTER" — ON SALE MONDAY, 29th DECEMBER!

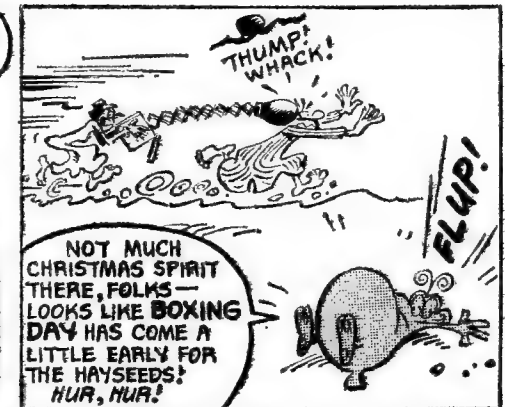
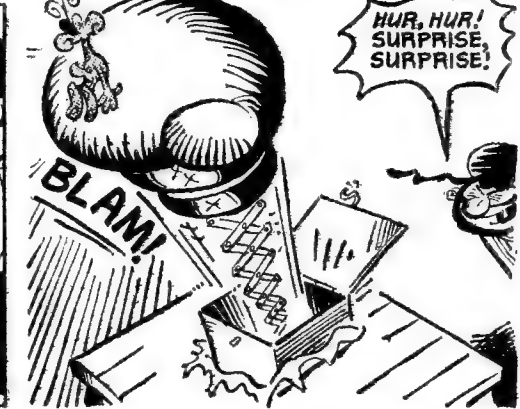
PA'S CHRISTMAS GIFT CERTAINLY PACKS A PUNCH!

CRUNCHER

THE TINY TERMITE WITH THE BIG APPETITE



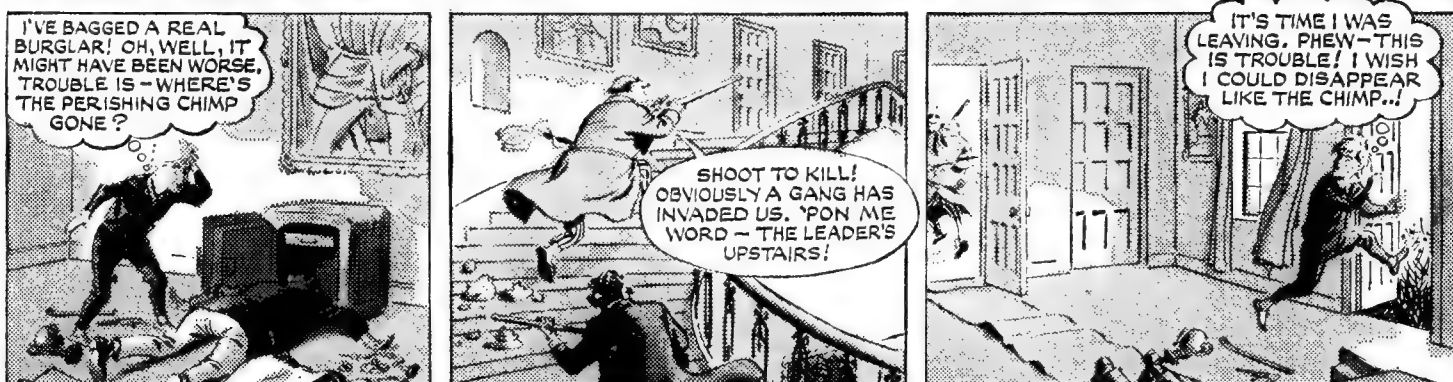
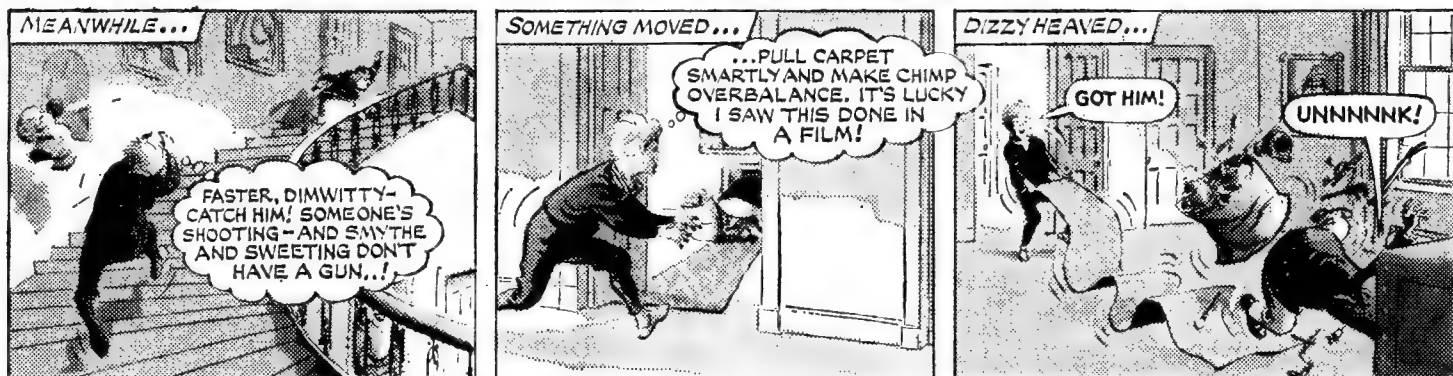
CHRISTMAS MORNING...



MEET THE HAYSEEDS AND CRUNCHER IN THE NEXT BUMPER ISSUE OF "BUSTER"!

DIZZY'S PLANS FOR CAPTURING THE CHIMP WERE CAUSING HEADACHES ALL ROUND!

"DIZZY" DIMWITTY



DON'T MISS THE COMICAL CONTINUATION IN THE NEXT "BUSTER", ON SALE MONDAY, 29th DECEMBER!



SMILER and DIMPS



SHOOT'S LONDON FOOTBALL

LONDON for the F.A. Cup
says ALAN MULLERY



First of a
series of reviews
of the London
football scene

CALLING ALL LONDON FANS

Here is SHOOT'S exciting guide to the capital of the football world—the soccer centre where competition is the fiercest. A spectacular line-up of 12 Football League clubs, the Southern League sides and the Amateurs!

● Alan Mullery on London's chances for the F.A. Cup. Spurs and Chelsea are the likeliest lads to get it ● Bobby Moore by Bobby Charlton "His reading of the game is second to none" ● George Best on why he loves playing in London. But fiercely pro-North when lavishing his praise ● Rodney Marsh's hopes for the new Q.P.R. The present line-up is the best he's known! ● Big-interest features ● Personality pieces ● Thrilling action photos ● Super full-colour pin-ups

Read all about the city that's teeming with the world's top-class talent

SHOOT'S LONDON FOOTBALL

64 powerful pages, 8 in fantastic full colour 3/6

HURRY FOR YOUR COPY NOW!

FULL OF CHRISTMAS SPIRIT, CHARLIE DECIDED TO OBTAIN A FEW "PRESENTS" FOR HIMSELF!

The ASTOUNDING ADVENTURES of Charlie Peace



After being transported in a time-machine from old Victorian London to the modern city of today, Charlie Peace traced his original dockland home and made a secret hide-out in the deserted cellar. But the festive season made the famous crook ponder...



SO, CHARLIE VENTURED FROM HIS HIDE-OUT, BUT AN OVERHEARD CONVERSATION DIDN'T CHEER HIM UP!



CONTINUED OVERLEAF...

A TICKET FOR A POSH PARTY WAS AN INVITATION FOR THE CROOK TO "LIFT" SOME LOOT!

THE BOX SUDDENLY CAME OPEN, AND...

EH? HEAVY METAL CHAINS! I'VE BEEN SWINDLED!

I NEVER SAID THEY WERE PAPER CHAINS, DID I? NOW TO FIND A QUIET SPOT TO COUNT ME LOOT!

BUT WHEN CHARLIE WENT TO DROP THE SILVER INTO HIS POCKET...

"SEVEN-SIDED TEN-SHILLING PIECE", MY FOOT! IT'S AN OLD EIGHT-SIDED COAT-BUTTON. THE CROOK!

HOPEFULLY, HE OPENED THE WALLET...

BUT THE OLD SKINFLINT TOLD THE TRUTH! TCHAH! IT'S EMPTY! ONLY THIS CARD IN IT!

IT WAS AN INVITATION-CARD, HOWEVER...

ADMIT *Scrimp to* A GRAND CHRISTMAS PARTY AT THE RIVER QUEEN DEC 24TH BE SURE TO BRING THIS CARD WITH YOU.

COR! A PARTY! AND IT'S TONIGHT! I AIN'T MISSIN' THIS!

AFTER MUCH HIKING AND ENQUIRING, CHARLIE CAME TO THE HIGHER REACHES OF THE RIVER, WELL OUT OF TOWN...

UPPER THAMES MEADOWS

THERE AIN'T A HOUSE IN SIGHT! SOMEBODY WAS PLAYIN' A JOKE ON OLD SILAS, AND I'VE GOT CAUGHT INSTEAD!

FOUR HOMELESS WAYFARERS HAD MADE A CAMP IN THE WOODS AT THE WATER'S EDGE...

IT'S VERY POSH! YOU WON'T BE WELCOME THERE!

THE "RIVER QUEEN" MATE? YES, IT'S A MILE ALONG THE BANK!

YOU LOOK 'UNGRY, CHUM! WE CAN SPARE ONE OF OUR SAUSAGES IF YOU LIKE TO STAY HERE!

THANKS A LOT, FELLERS... BUT I'VE GOT AN INVITE TO SOME SUPER. NOSH!

AND SOON...

THE RIVER QUEEN

COR! IT'S A BLINKIN' GREAT HOUSEBOAT! AND IT SOUNDS AS IF THE PARTY IS IN FULL SWING! I HOPE THOSE TWO GUARDS DON'T KNOW THE REAL SILAS SCRIMP!

THE BOLD RASCAL WAS LUCKY...

SO THAT'S SCRIMP! I WAS TOLD HE WAS A BIT ECCENTRIC! HE MUST BE, TO DRESS SO SHABBILY!

HO, HO! COMIN' ABOARD TO STOKES UP-WITH GRUB!

THERE WAS A SMALL BUFFET BEFORE THE MAIN CHRISTMAS DINNER, AND CHARLIE STEADILY WORKED HIS WAY ALONG...

WHO IS HE?

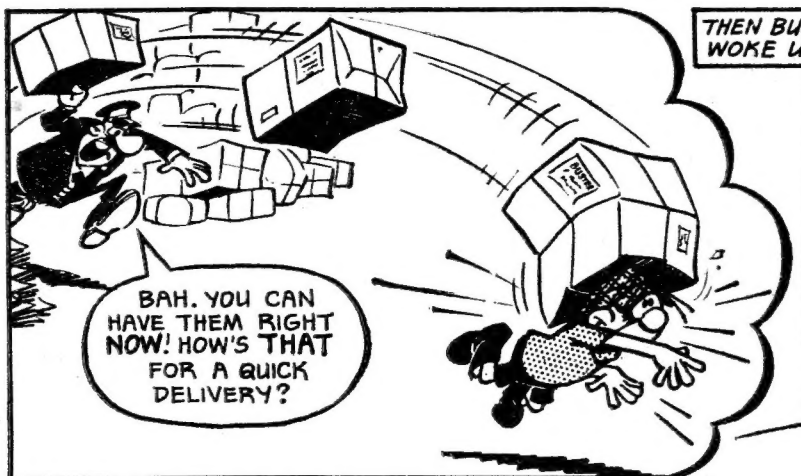
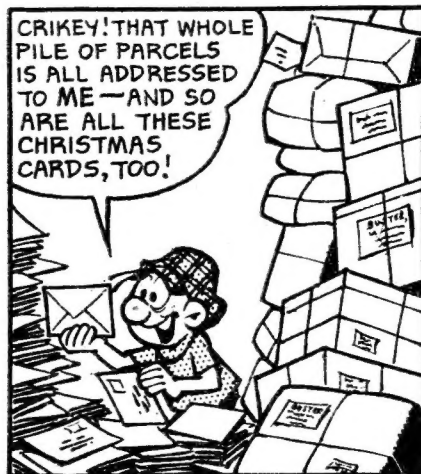
NO IDEA! FANCY OUR HOST INVITING SUCH A CHARACTER!

SOON BE NEARLY FULL-UP! MUSTN'T LEAVE WITHOUT SOME SOUVENIRS, THOUGH...

THE CHEF'S 'GALLEY' WAS UNDER AN AWNING AT THE STERN...

COR! LOOK AT ALL THE GRUB WAITIN' FOR THAT LOT INSIDE! BUT THAT BOX OF SILVER CUTLERY WILL DO ME NICELY! I AIN'T GREEDY!





MORE FUN IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF "BUSTER", ON SALE MONDAY, 29th DECEMBER!